

Rachel Bradanini
Bill Number: SB 1 and HB5322

Testimony on SB 1 and HB 5322:

SB 1: An Act Concerning Childhood Mental & Physical Health Services in Schools which would allow that bachelor's degree level persons in schools be allowed to provide mental health services. The recommendation may not have considered the intensity of needs of students is likely to surpass the level of training and education of these individuals when graduate level clinicians are often challenged by the demands and depth of need of the students. Additionally, these individuals would require direct supervision, presumably from a Certified Graduate Level Clinician/Social Worker which would create a diversion of services to student that would be provided by the certified social worker to provide supervision. Section 3 should be deleted from this bill

HB 5322: An Act Concerning the Creation of a Human Services Permit and a Requirement That School Social Workers Conduct Home Visits During the School Year which in Section 2 mandates 2 home visits per year, per student is a mandate that does not seem to be based in knowledge regarding the function of and demand for School Social Workers, particularly those of us who work in the RESC Programs and service a wide area of the state. The introduction of such a mandate would decrease service delivery time to students and put an unnecessary burden upon the program functioning due to the loss of the school social worker as a resource in the building. This is poorly thought out and is likely to be detrimental to the school functioning and is also, an unattainable standard for those of us who work in the RESC programs.